



Witchcraft Works 5

Ryu
Mizunagi

Presented by Ryu Mizunagi

Witchcraft Works

vol. 5



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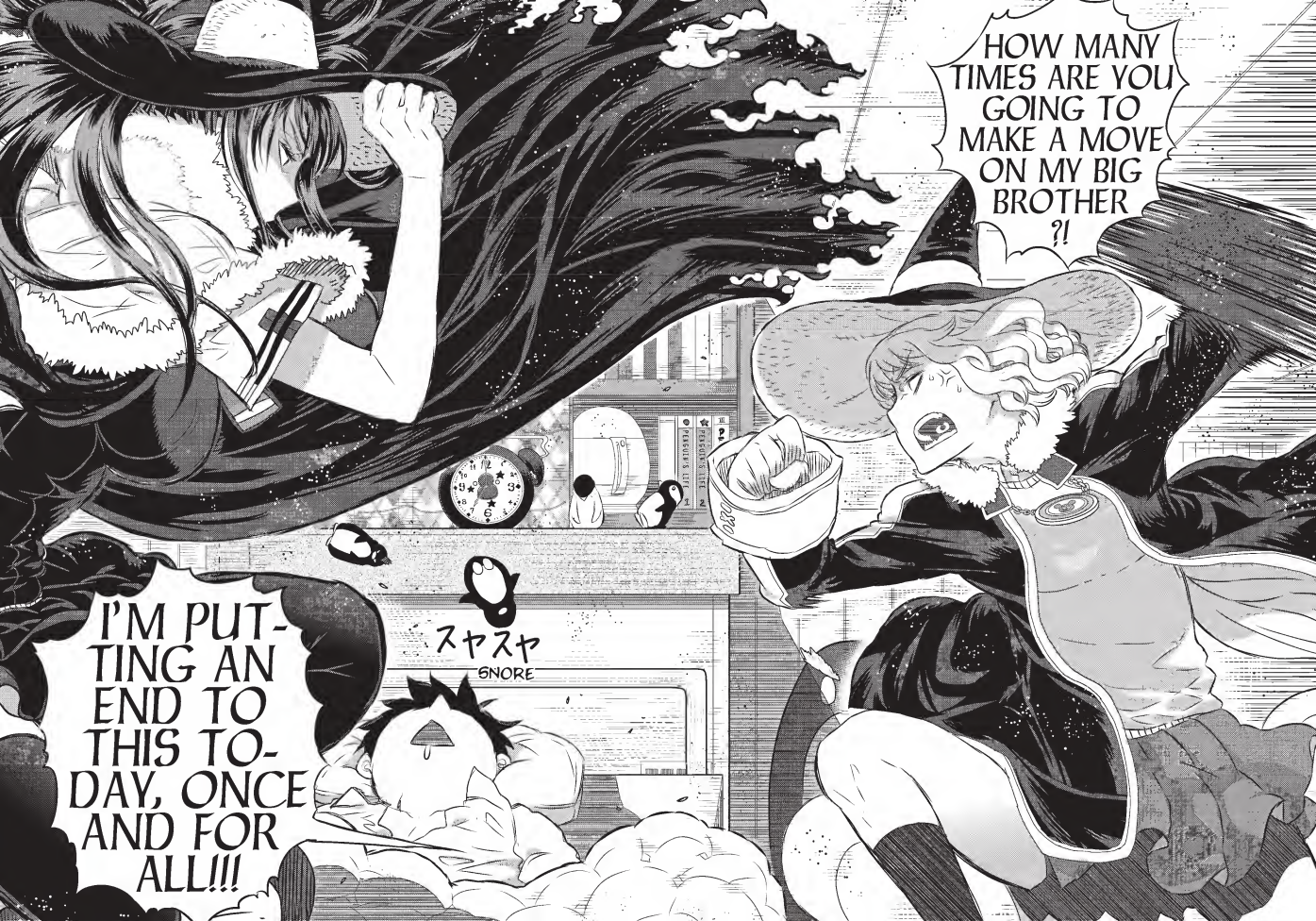


CHAPTER 17



Takamiya and the Witch of the End





HOW MANY
TIMES ARE YOU
GOING TO
MAKE A MOVE
ON MY BIG
BROTHER
?!

I'M PUT-
TING AN
END TO
THIS TO-
DAY, ONCE
AND FOR
ALL!!!

スヤスヤ
SNORE





(IT'S A LONG STORY, BUT) I'M A WIZARD IN TRAINING, SO I'M LIVING AN UNUSUAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LIFE.

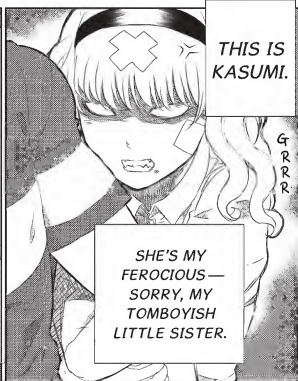


Why did you want to go shopping all of a sudden?

Oh,

UM...

AND THIS IS KAGARI. SHE'S MY CLASSMATE, AND SHE'S A WITCH WHO PROTECTS ME, TEACHES ME MAGIC, AND LIVES WITH ME.



THIS IS KASUMI.

GRRR

SHE'S MY FEROCIOUS— SORRY, MY TOMBOYISH LITTLE SISTER.



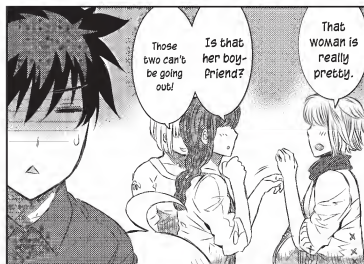
and get you
a new set
of clothes
and daily
necessities.



Well, you
know. Your
place was
completely
demolished,

and
most of
your stuff
burned
down
with it.

So I
figured
we'd go
to the mall
by the
station



Those
two can't
be going
out!

Is that
her boy-
friend?

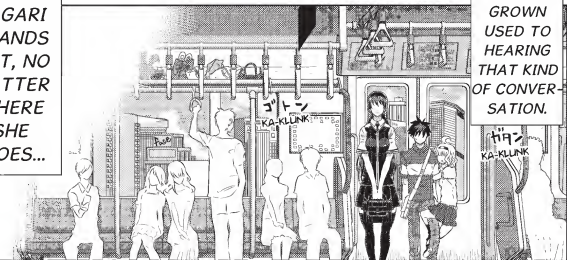
That
woman is
really
pretty.



Hey.

KAGARI
STANDS
OUT, NO
MATTER
WHERE
SHE
GOES...

I'VE
GROWN
USED TO
HEARING
THAT KIND
OF CONVER-
SATION.



SHE
REALLY IS
ABSOLUTELY
BEAUTIFUL.

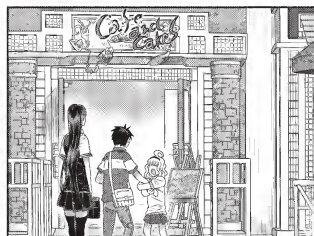
AND OF
COURSE,

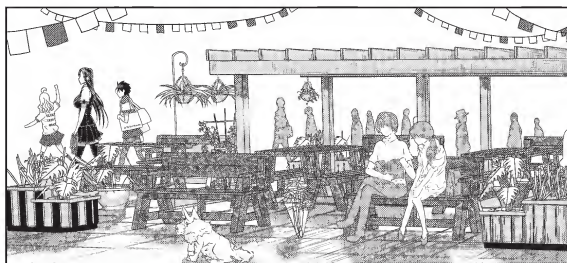
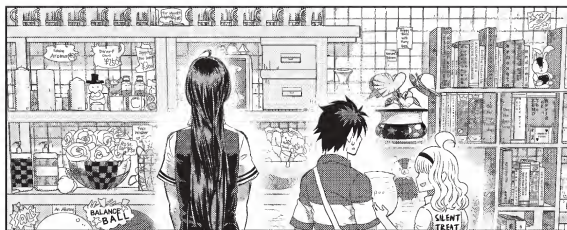


BETWEEN
TRAINING AND
STUDYING
FOR TESTS,
I'VE BEEN SO
BUSY THESE
DAYS.

IT WOULD
BE NICE
IF I GOT
A CHANCE
TO RELAX.

...TAKE
THE LEAD,
EH?







Didn't
your mother
tell you to
take the
lead?

HOLD
ON.

I DON'T
KNOW
ANYTHING
ABOUT
GIRLS'
CLOTHES.

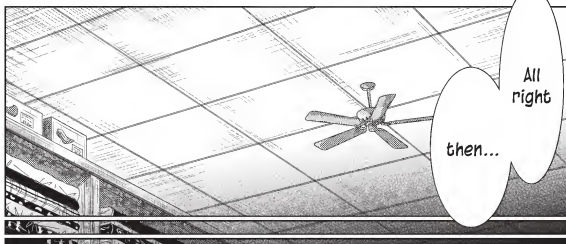


Maybe
I'll have
you choose
for me.



She
heard
?!

?!



All
right

then...



You
chose the
Princess's
clothes?!

WHAA?
?

out Monako
to buy it
for her.

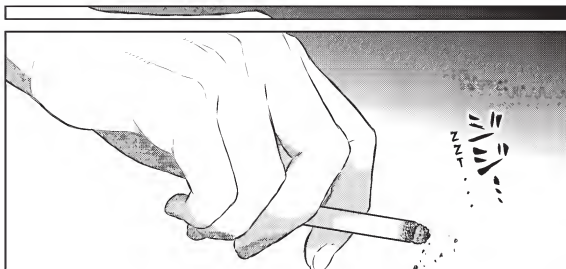
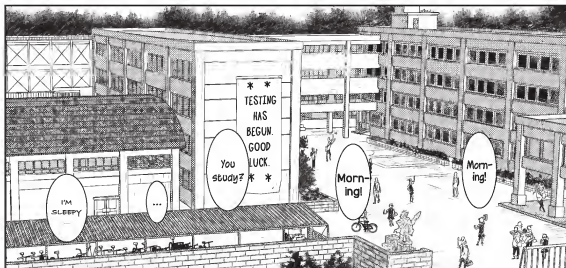
Don't
you think
this is a
little too
showy?

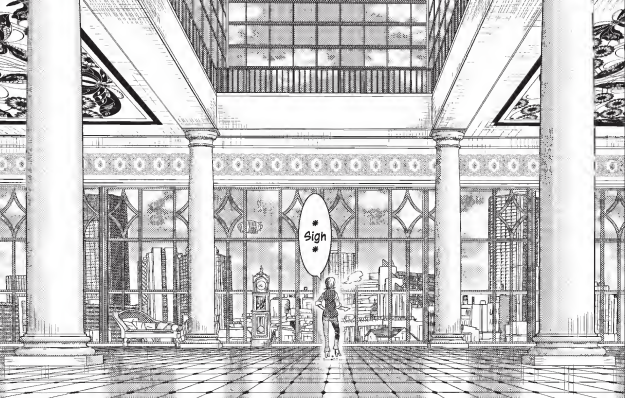














What
exactly
are you
planning,

コ
KLUNK
"

Right
down to
busi-
ness?
Where
are your
manners
?

Weekend
?



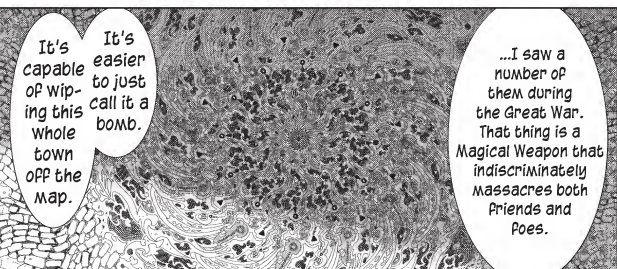
So you
know
what
it is?

I
see...

Putting that
there without you
Workshop Witches
reducing Witches
enough.

Don't
play dumb.
You put that
thing in the
sewers.

It
wasn't hard
to figure out.
You're the only
witch sick
enough to
create one
in that
shape.



It's
capable
of wip-
ing this
whole
town
off the
map.

It's
easier
to just
call it a
bomb.

...I saw a
number of
them during
the Great War.
That thing is a
Magical Weapon
that indis-
criminately
massacres both
friends and
foes.



All right.
Let's
negotiate.
You called
me here
because you
want him,
right?

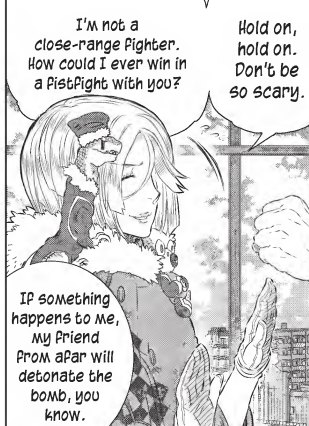
It's
set up
so only
that
individual
can disarm
it.

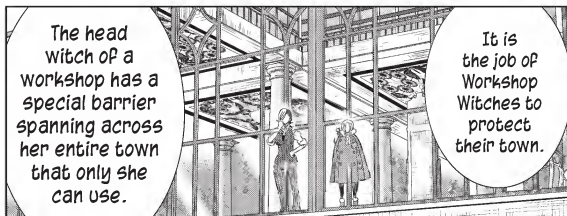
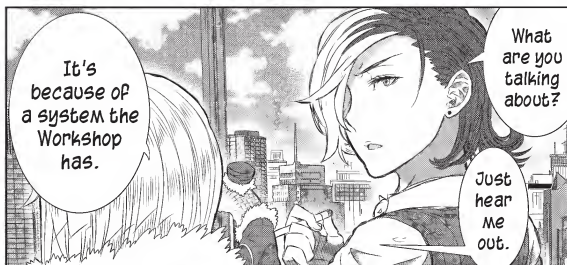
Some-
one had
made a
blood
pact.

Fiddle
with it
the wrong
way,
and ka-
boom.

Only
a few
witches
are
able
to disarm
it.

You made
a smart
decision
to not
tamper
with it,
even
after you
discovered it.





This is because the head of a workshop is using her magical power to protect them.

In other words, even if something is destroyed by magic, no harm will come to anyone.



Every second of the day, this barrier is fully active.

If a regular human is going to be harmed by magic, it automatically protects them.

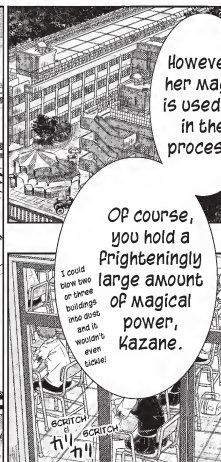
But what if you had to protect every life in this town at the exact same time?

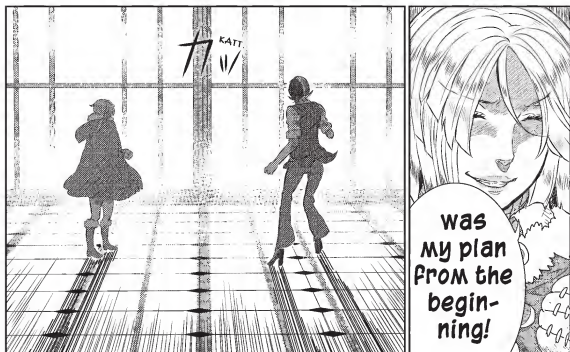
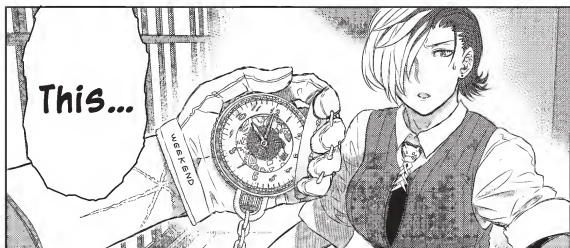
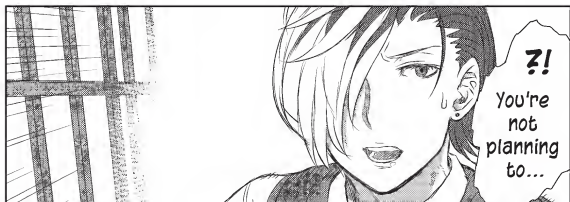


However, her magic is used up in the process.

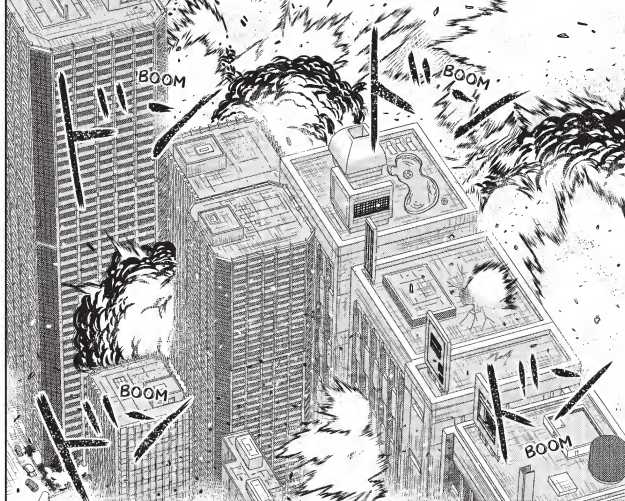
Of course, you hold a frighteningly large amount of magical power, Kazane.

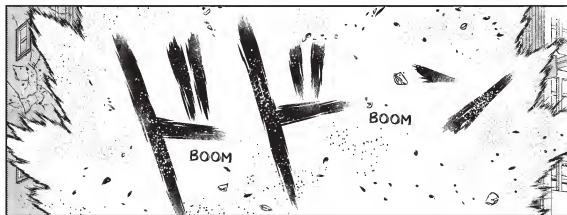
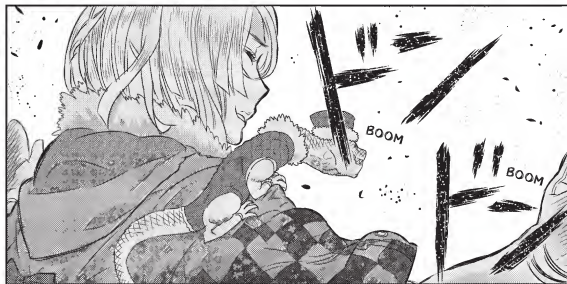
I could blow two or three buildings into dust and it wouldn't even blow!

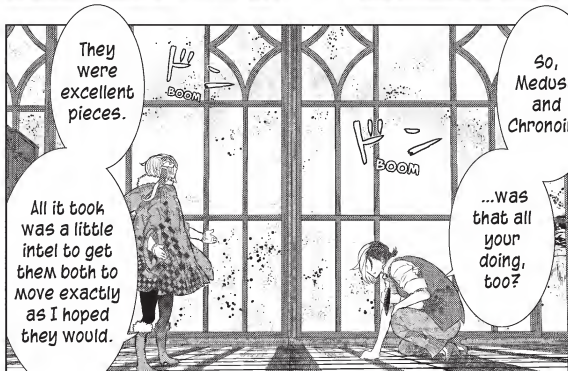
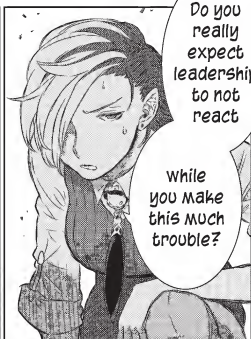
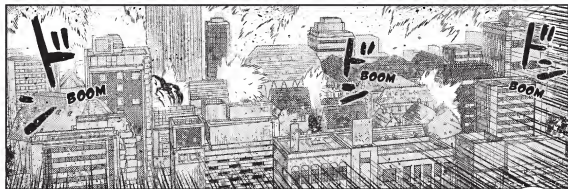


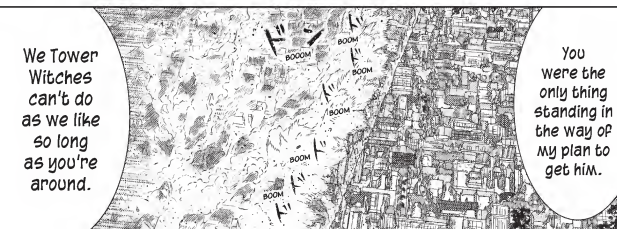
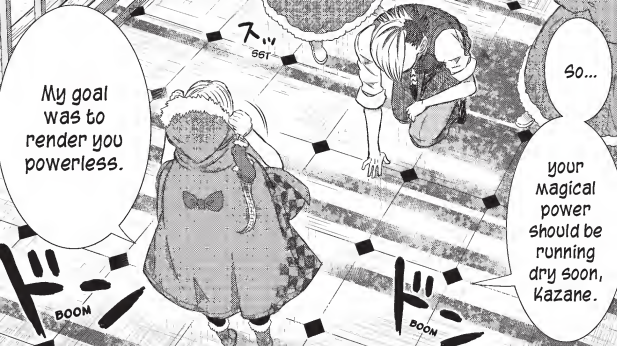




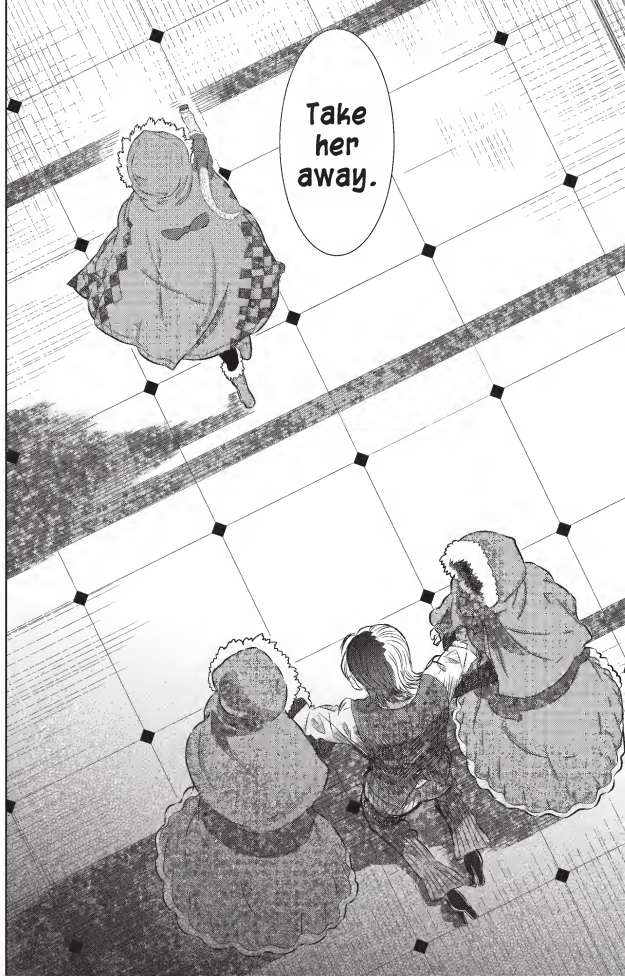




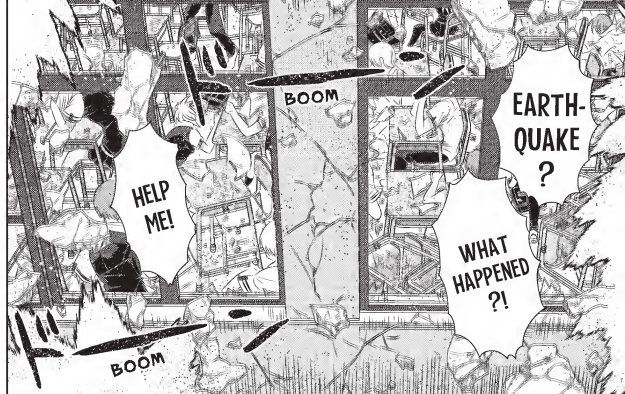


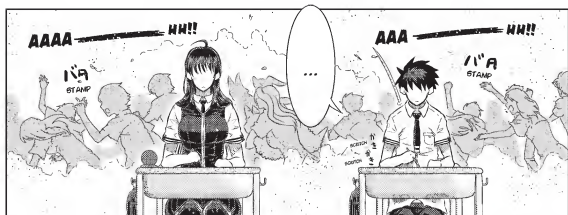


Take
her
away.



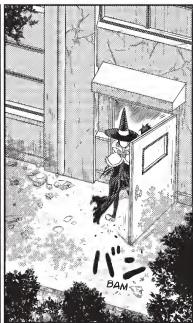
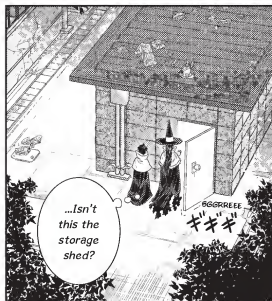




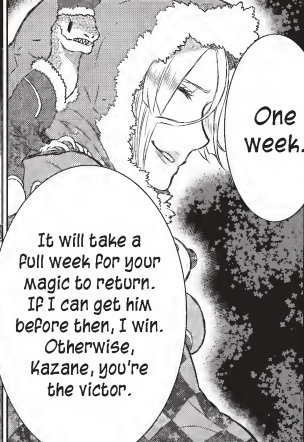
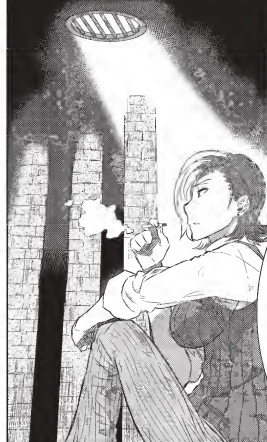












One week.

It will take a full week for your magic to return. If I can get him before then, I win. Otherwise, Kazane, you're the victor.

CHAPTER
17
END

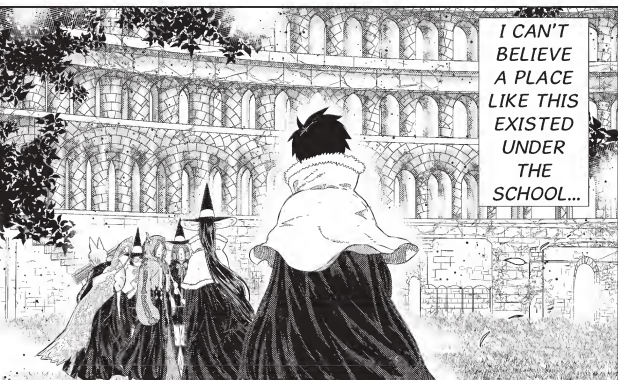
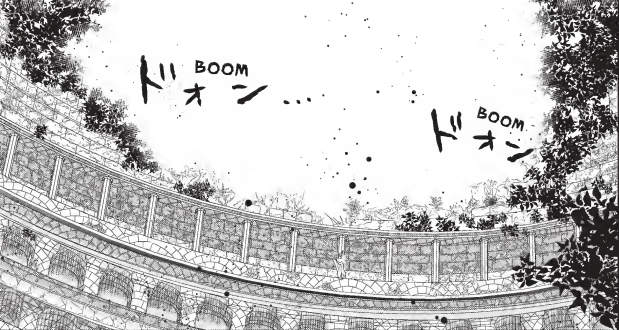


Just sit in that dark cell and pray for your allies. It's all you can do.

The Furry-ears evacuate along with the rest of the regular students.



Witchcraft Works

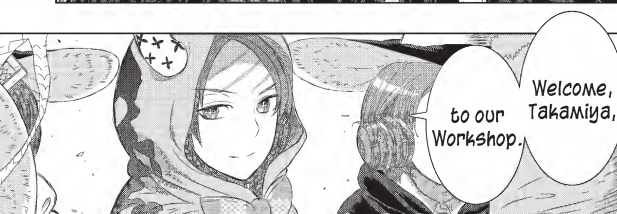




CHAPTER 18



Takamiya and the Fight Against Weekend: 1





You must be meeting these two for the first time. Allow me to introduce you.

Rinon's my master!

Really?

I recently learned that you've become the Princess's apprentice.

And Rinon's older brother.

Welcome.

Rinon!



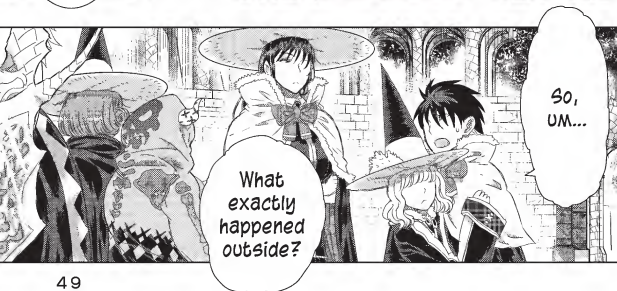
First, this is Natsume, our leader.

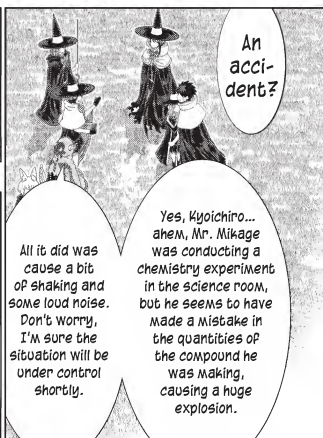
OH!

Glad to meet you, Takamiya. My name's Natsume Mikage.

I've, ah... been made leader of this team of five witches who protect the town, and...

W-well, in any case, I'm glad to have you here!











AGH!

I FEEL
FINE...

I'VE
BEEN
HIT,
BUT

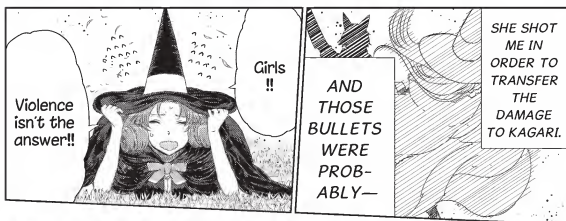
Are
you all
right,
Honoka
?

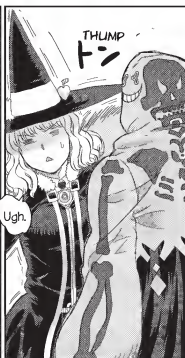
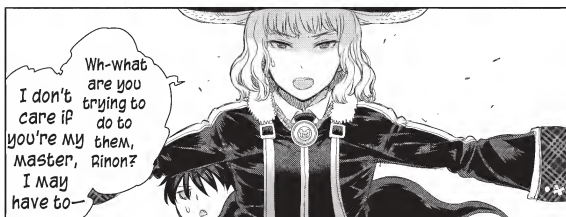


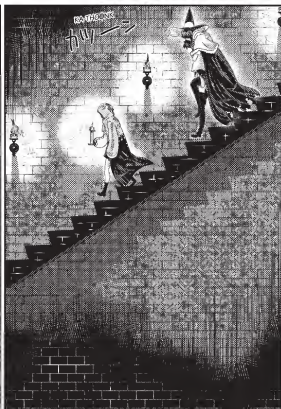
OH.

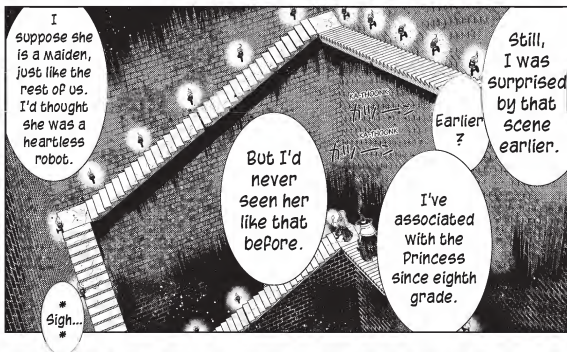
NOW
I GET
IT.

た
ん
BAM











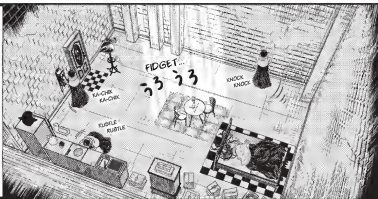


AND IT MIGHT
BE A STRONG
ENEMY, TOO.
THEY'VE
NEVER
GATHERED
TOGETHER
LIKE THAT
BEFORE, AND
IT SEEMS
LIKE THEY'RE
HIDING
SOMETHING
FROM ME.

IF I NEED TO
BE HIDDEN AWAY
HERE, THEN
SOMEONE MUST
BE AFTER ME.
COULD TOWER
WITCHES HAVE
ATTACKED?

WHAT
HAPPENED
OUT THERE?
THAT DIDN'T
SEEM LIKE A
QUAKE. IT WAS
MORE OF AN
EXPLOSION.

*BUT
THIS
INVOLVES
ME
DIRECTLY
!*



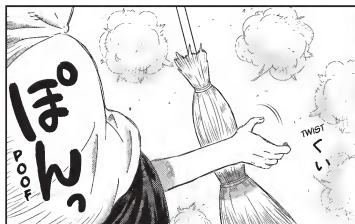
HIDE
HERE
UNTIL
IT'S ALL
OVER?

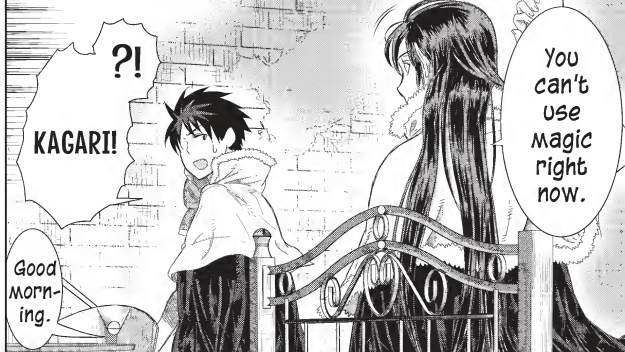
IT LOOKS LIKE I COULD ESCAPE FROM THERE, BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GO THAT HIGH UP.

AND
WHAT
A HIGH
CEIL-
ING.

THERE'S
NOTHING
I CAN USE
HIDDEN IN
THE WALLS,
AND THE
PHONE IS
DEAD. ALL
I HAVE IS
FOOD.

...
THERE'S
NO
KNOB
ON THIS
DOOR.





But I never imagined they were in such a desperate situation that they'd have to lock us up.

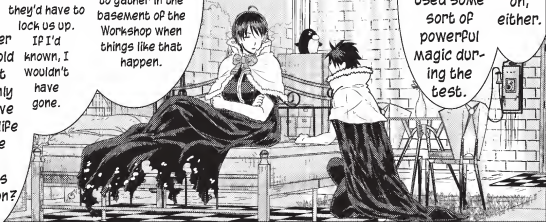
Remember when I told you that you're only able to live a normal life because of my mother's protection?

You saw how everything was so chaotic at school, right? We've been told to gather in the basement of the Workshop when things like that happen.

IP I'd known, I wouldn't have gone.

But my senses tell me that Tower Witches used some sort of powerful magic during the test.

I don't know what's going on, either.



WHAT?
THE
CHAIR-
WOMAN?

Will she be all right?

Them having to lock us up means one of two things. Either my mother has found out about the seals, or my mother's protection has disappeared. IP it was the seals, though, my mother would have come herself. It's hard to believe, but my mother must have been defeated.

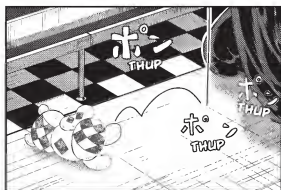
Who knows how long it'll take... but in time, my mother will return to normal, demolish our enemies, then come back. Whoever we're facing should know that, too.



She's immortal. It's probably that her power was temporarily stolen from her.

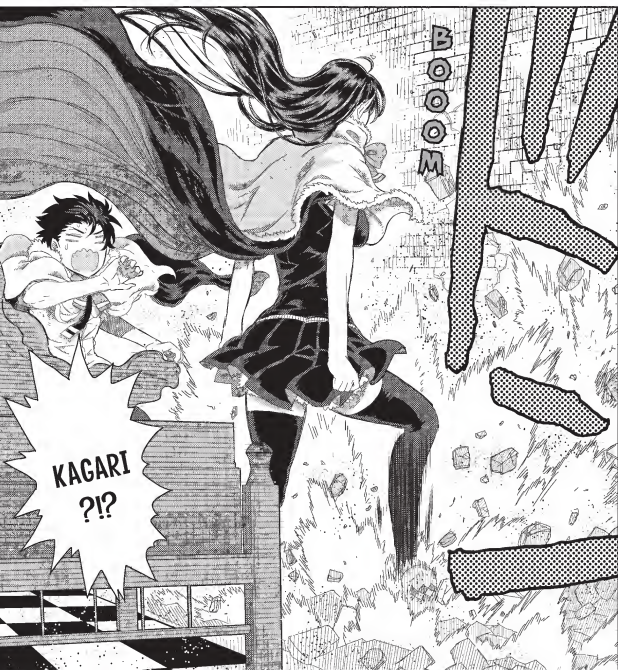
There's no need to worry about her.

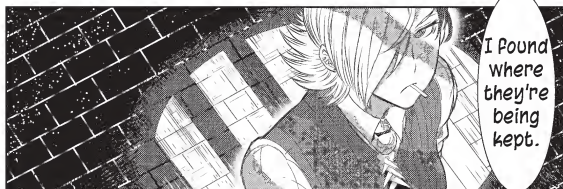




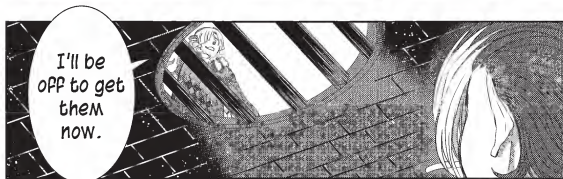








I found where they're being kept.



I'll be off to get them now.

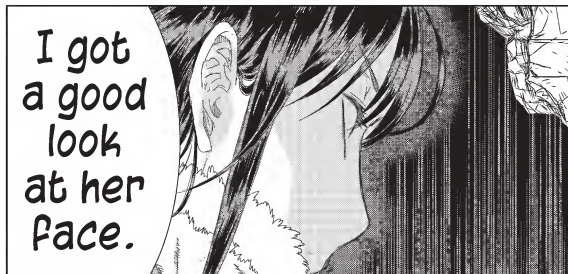
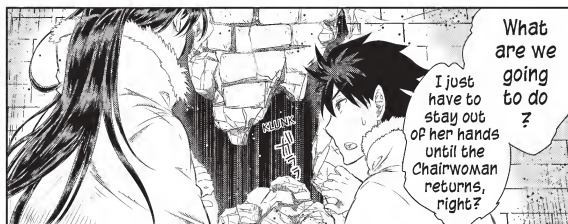


I don't think that's a valid reason for stomping it into the ground, though...

And you saw it explode, didn't you? It was dangerous to keep listening to it without doing something.

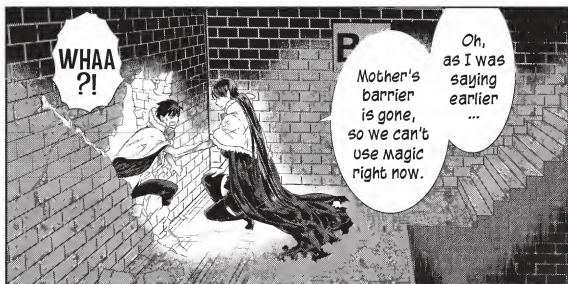
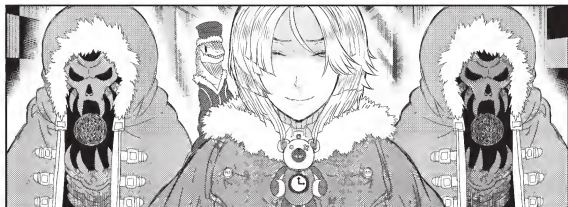
Are you sure it's okay to do that, Kagari? That stuffed animal was right in the middle of talking...

It was just going to say something like, "Wait there, I'm coming to get you."





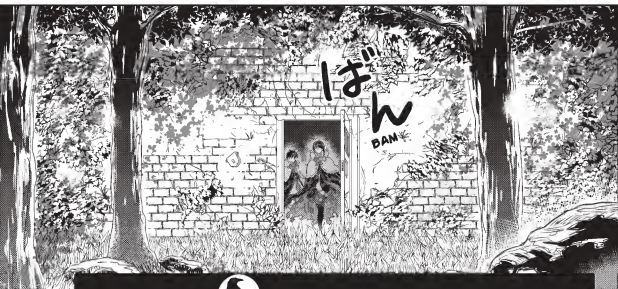
We're
going
to
defeat
her.



Worries



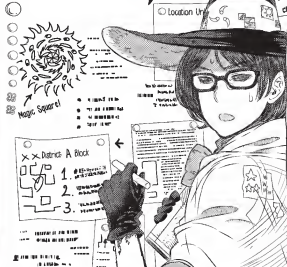
Witchcraft Works





While civilian casualties were kept to zero due to the "Contract with the Town," the workshop head has fallen into the enemy's hands. Many witches on our side were affected by the explosion and are now missing.

Planning HQ



Today at 10 AM, a Magic Square placed by a Tower Witch was activated in sewer #3 of the Mikazuki District, causing a town-wide explosion.

Aid from headquarters will take a few days to arrive. We've asked neighboring cities for help, but we shouldn't count on anything.

Planning HQ



And the request for help?

The barrier only protects normal citizens, not witches.

The able-bodied are currently on rescue duty...

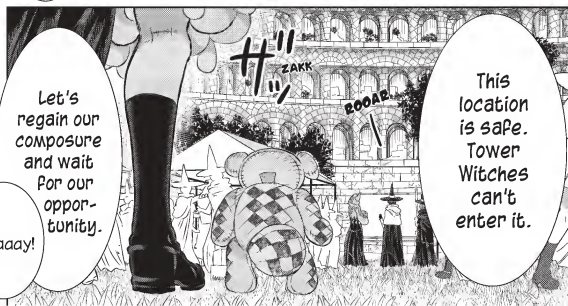
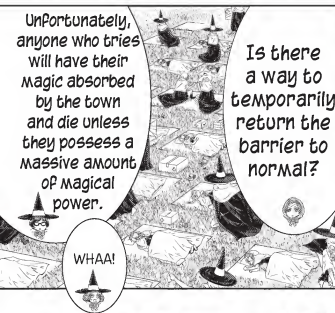
It's always been so peaceful, you know...

ROAR

ROAR

To be honest, witches from around here, including me, aren't used to this kind of situation...









That's
right.

FLUTTER
FLUTTER



IS IT
MY
FAULT...

THAT
ALL THIS
HAP-
PENED?!



Take a deep
breath, Takamiya.
This isn't the time
to be depressed.
There's somewhere
we need to go.

HA
AH

HA
AH

FLUTTER
FLUTTER

Wh-
Why...
Why did
this...

Why?

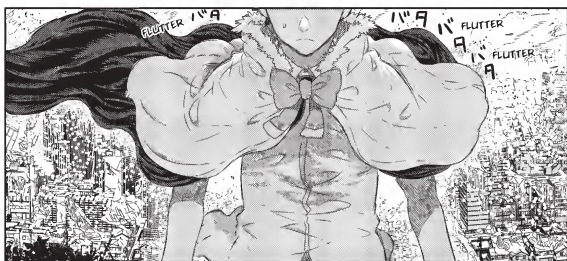
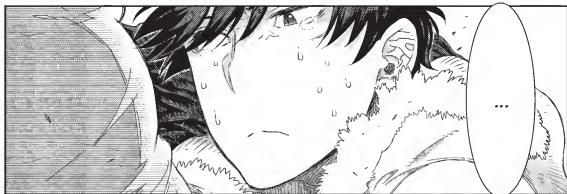


People
might be
dead!!
Our entire
city was
destroyed
!!!

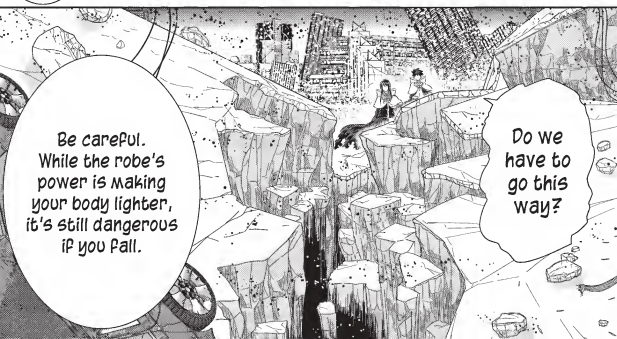
How
are you
able to
stay
calm
at a
time
like
this
?!

Can't
you see
what's
hap-
pened?!
This is
terrible
!!







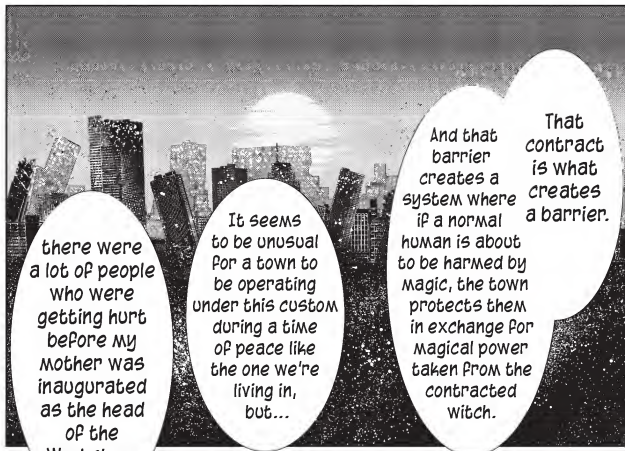




Workshop
Witches all
have a re-
presentative
who makes
a contract
with the
town.

It's
an old
Workshop
custom.

Oh yeah.
You said that
you can't use
magic right
now, but...
what do
you mean
by that?



there were
a lot of people
who were
getting hurt
before my
mother was
inaugurated
as the head
of the
Workshop.

It seems
to be unusual
for a town to
be operating
under this custom
during a time
of peace like
the one we're
living in,
but...

And that
barrier
creates a
system where
if a normal
human is about
to be harmed by
magic, the town
protects them
in exchange for
magical power
taken from the
contracted
witch.

That
contract
is what
creates
a barrier.



I see...
So because
the Chairwoman
protected
everyone in
town, she's run
out of magic
power and
fallen into the
enemy's
hands?

In any case,
the contract
with the town
is what allows
Workshop
Witches to
use magic.

Ex-
act-
ly.

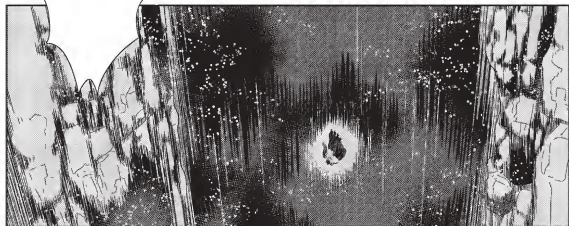
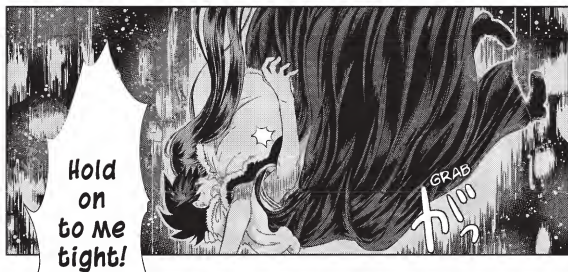


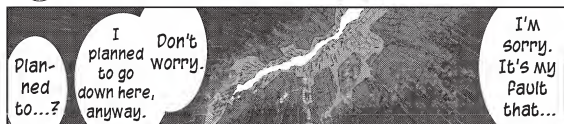
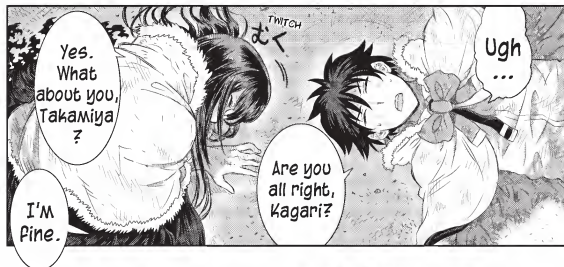
With the
contracted witch
gone, the town is
still in ruins. Once
the contract is
restored, though,
these buildings will
begin to automatically
repair themselves,
and the town will
return to normal.

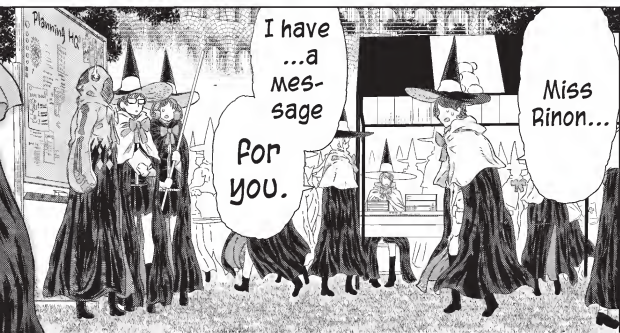
They've
been
isolated
in a
safe
place.

Where
did
everyone
that was
saved
go?









You've
got
thirty
minutes
...

Br-bring
him...
to the
school
yard.

7
FIGHT
7
7
...

A detailed black and white illustration featuring a giraffe and a lion as central characters. The giraffe, positioned on the left, has a long neck and a crown-like tuft of hair. The lion, on the right, has a large, textured mane. They are surrounded by a dense collection of pocket watches of various designs, some with intricate faces and others with simpler patterns. Interspersed among the watches and around the animals are numerous instances of the Japanese onomatopoeia 'tik' (tik-tik), written in a stylized, handwritten font. The background is filled with more watches and the 'tik' text, creating a sense of a busy, time-themed environment. The overall style is whimsical and detailed, characteristic of Japanese manga or anime art.

So,
what
will
you
do?

I may not be able to enter that place,

but that doesn't apply to these girls.

but that
doesn't
apply to
these
girls.

Never
seen
her
be-
fore.

A
blonde...
red
riding
hood.

A
Tower
Witch.

in the
school
yard

Um...



NIGHTSCOOP

There's
something
wrapped
around
them...

カニユ
KA-6HIK

Sur-
rounded
by...
Workshop
Witches.

NIGHTSCOOP

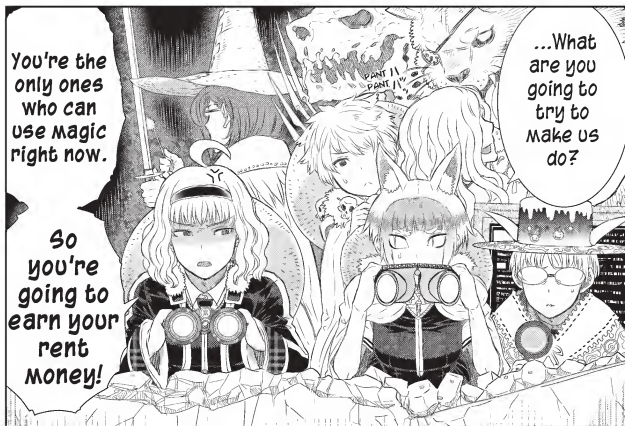
They're
bombs.

Damn
...

You're the
only ones
who can
use magic
right now.

So
you're
going to
earn your
rent
money!

...What
are you
going to
try to
make us
do?



Yes.
That's
where
we're
headed.

Does
that mean
the job you
need me
to do is...

To
where
the
contract
is
made
?

...Well,
that
doesn't
matter
now. I
guess I
was right
to lie
here in
hiding.

Dear
me...

I believe
Miss Weekend
went to the
school in order
to get you two.
So why are
you here?



I am
Gibraltar,
the Tower
Witch!!

Here I
come
!!



They've
even
discovered
this
place.

Get
back,
Taka-
miya!

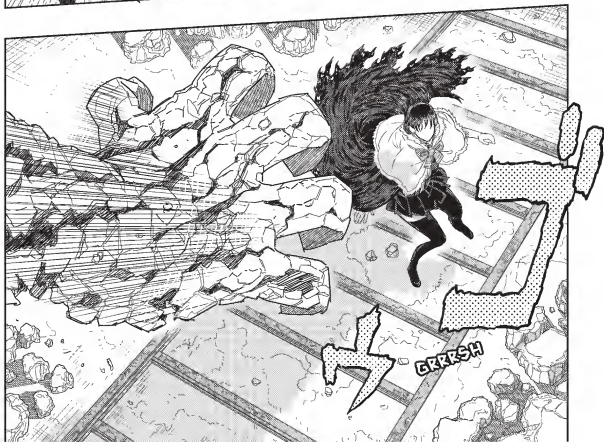


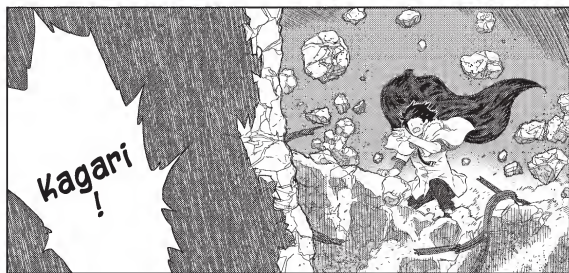


HERE I
COME
!!!

I AM
GIBRALTAR,
THE
TOWER
WITCH
!!

Get
back,
Taka-
miya!







Hmph.
Utterly boring.
How did
you plan to
get past me
without being
able to
use your
magic?

...

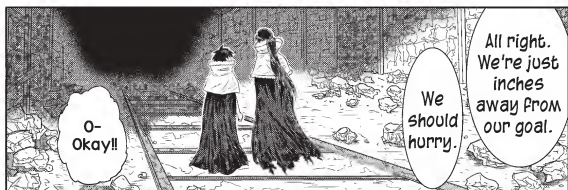
Whatever.
I don't find joy
in tormenting
my enemies.

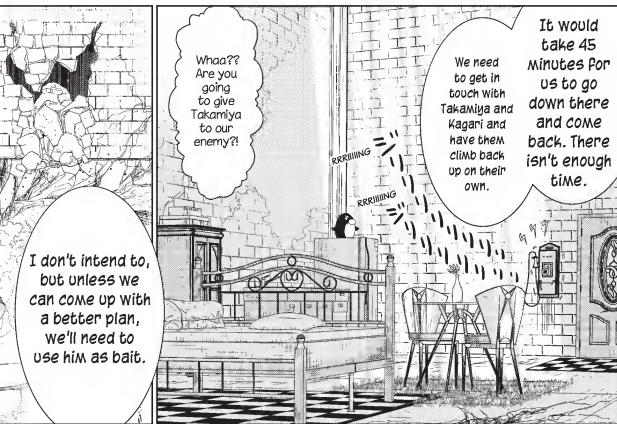
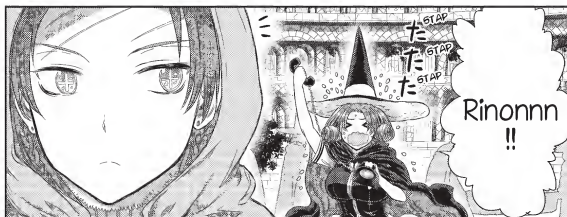














Rinon,
I've had
a look.
Please
listen.



How is
it?



Unlike
that Magic
Square
they used...
to blow up
the town.
There's no
blood pact,
either.

Even
the least
talented of
witches could
remove these...
so long as they
were able to
cast dispel.



They're
very plainly
rigged...
There aren't
any tricks
or traps...



Yes.

But that
would
require
using
magic,
eh?



She said...
"If you disobey
me, your friends
will die."

We were
attacked by
a woman...
in a red
coat and
blonde hair.
She...
threatened
me...



I-I am
part of the
Kashiwagi
team. We
were at-
tacked while
rescuing a
girl trapped
under rubble
on Second
Avenue...

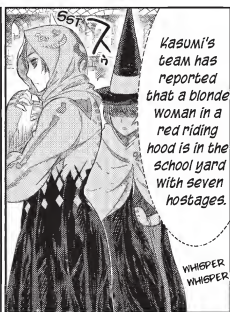
There
are...
eight
of us.



They're
not
picking
uuup!!

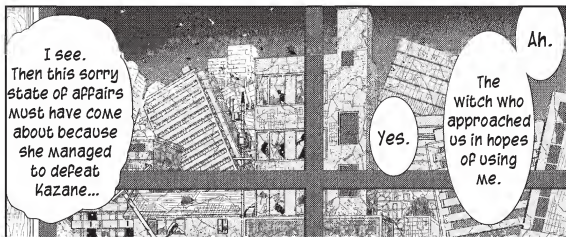
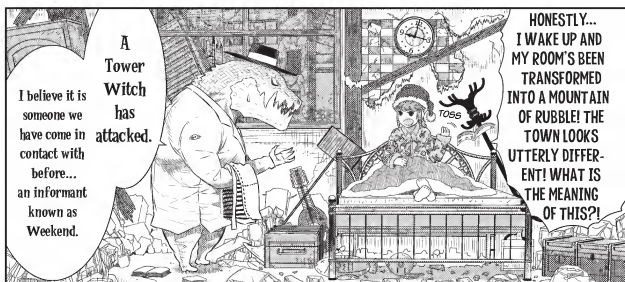
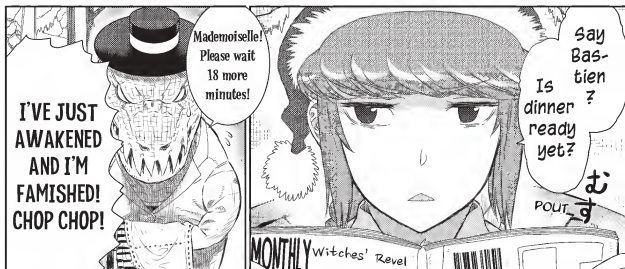
What
should
we do,
Rinon?

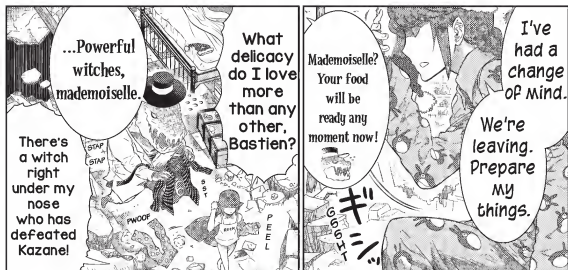
18
Min-
utes
left

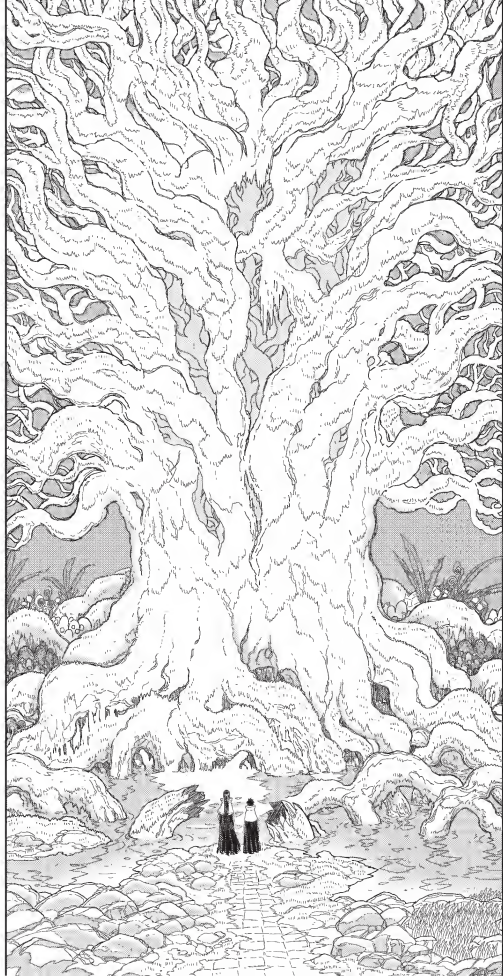


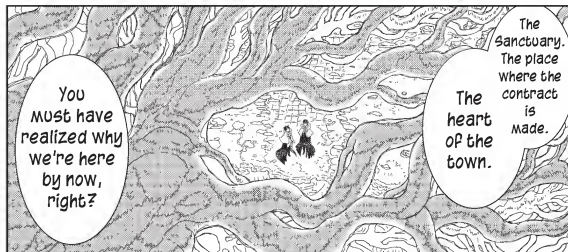
Kasumi's
team has
reported
that a blonde
woman in a
red riding
hood is in the
school yard
with seven
hostages.

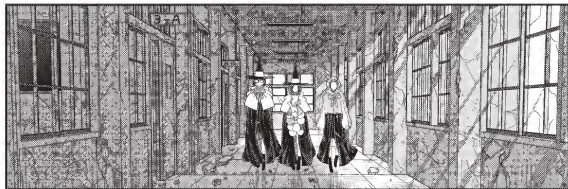
WHISPER
WHISPER

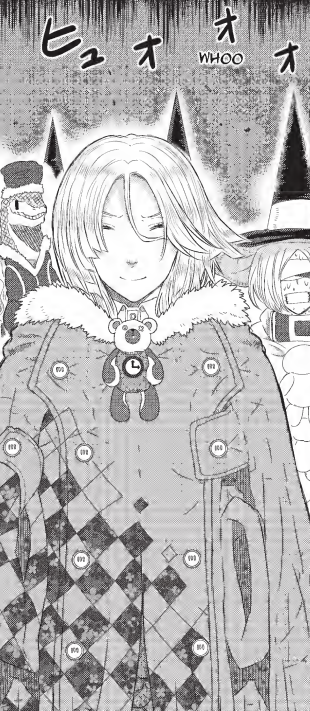












Good
evening,
ladies
of the
Work-
shop!

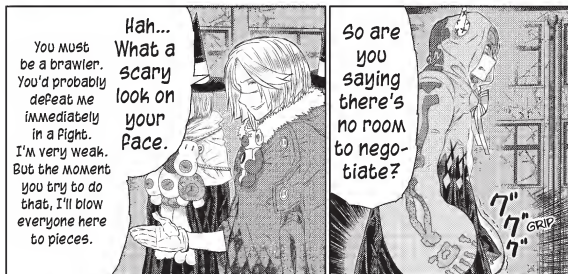


WE ASK
FOR A
LITTLE
MORE
TIME!

REGARDING
THAT,
WE HAVE
COME TO
NEGOTIATE!

You
have 12
minutes
and 5
seconds
left!

I'm not
seeing the
boy with
you.





You keep
watching,
Furry!

The rest
of you,
help me
find the
detonator
!!

That's it!
They're
in the
building!!



We'll
probably
all die
if that
happens.

I may not
be able to
use magic,
but I can
still smash
her teeth
in.

But
I want to
make her
pay, too.

So I'm
going
to die?

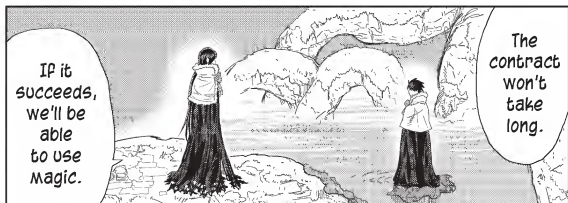
ズッ
ズッ

Kasumi's
group seems
to have come
up with a plan.
7 minutes
left.

If they
can't stop
the bombs,

We both
attack her the
moment of
the explosion.



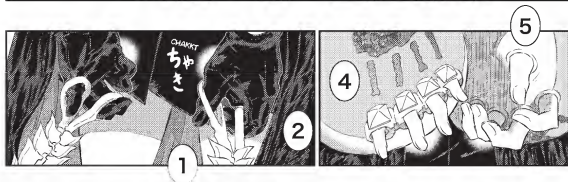
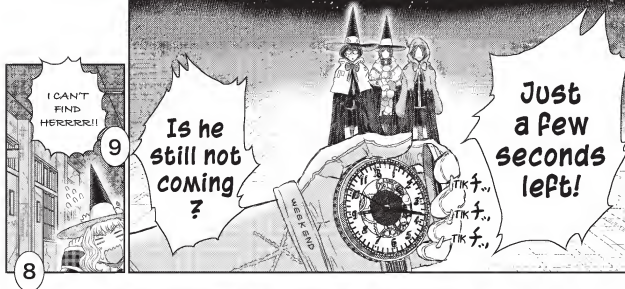


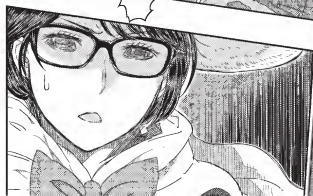
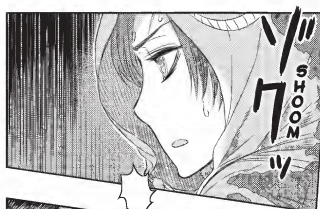


It's
some-
thing I
decide.









SHE MAY
LEAVE ONE
ALIVE AS
INSURANCE,
BUT WE
WON'T REACH
THE OTHER
SIX IN
TIME

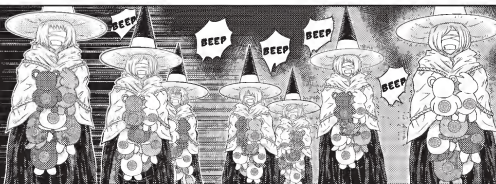
SHE'S GOING
TO PRESS IT.
I DOUBT WE
HAVE ANY
OTHER TOWER
WITCHES ON
OUR SIDE WHO
CAN DISPEL
THE BOMBS.

WE'LL WORRY
ABOUT IT
LATER...
FOR NOW,
LET'S GET HER!

YES.
OUR
MAGIC—



NATSUME.
THIS
SENSATION—



We're
saving
them all,
Natsu-
meeeeeee
!!



Another
change
of
plans!

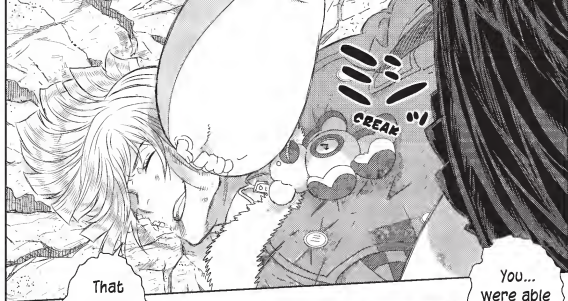
All
right
!



with
Workshop
Witches
!!!

Don't
ever
mess

KLONK



That
means
you're able
to use
magic...

You...
were able
to undo
all of my
bombs at
once?

and
that he...
formed a
contract!

Now
things
are
starting
to get
inter-
esting!!

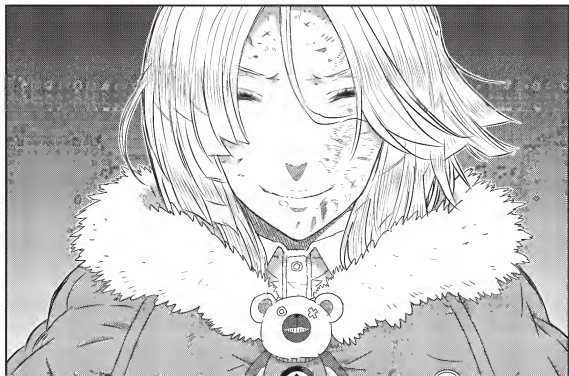
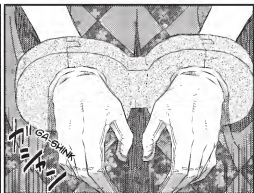
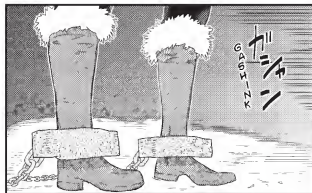
The Iron Maiden



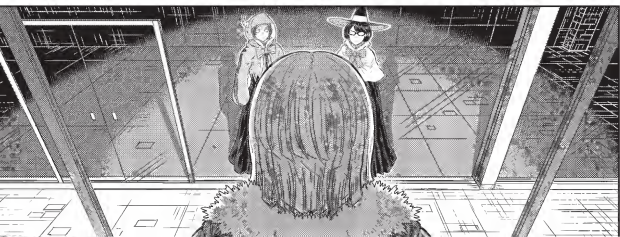
Witchcraft Works

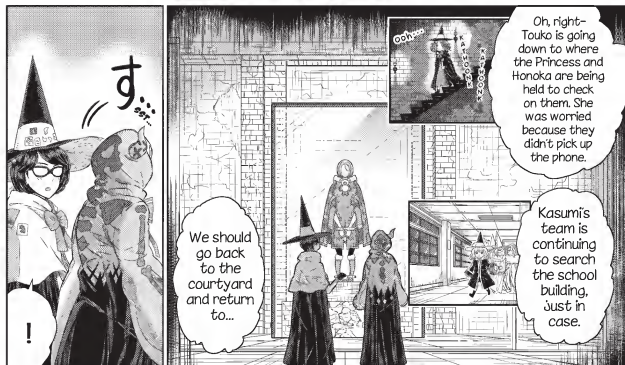


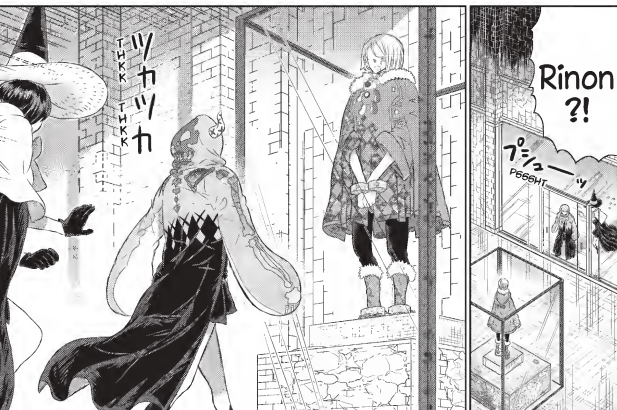










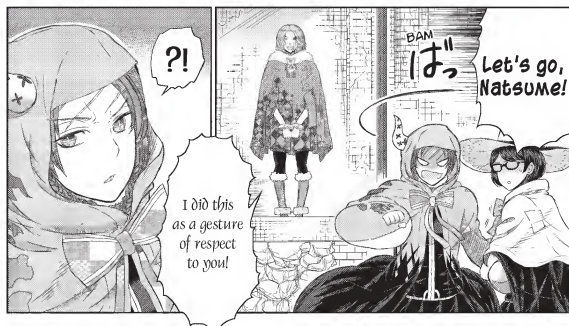


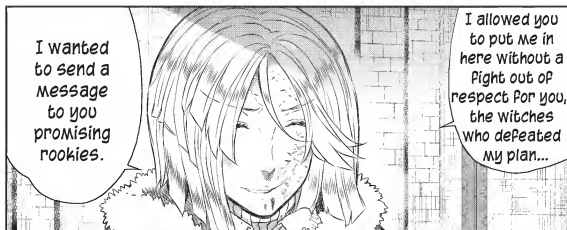
It is impossible for you to escape from here! No matter how many allies you may have, I promise you that I will destroy all of them!!

Just keep that in mind!

The Chairwoman will be back soon. So, you're going to stay enclosed inside there until then!

This cell is made from special glass that nullifies magic! Your shackles prevent you from using magic, as well!

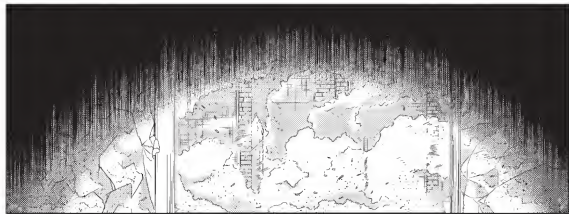


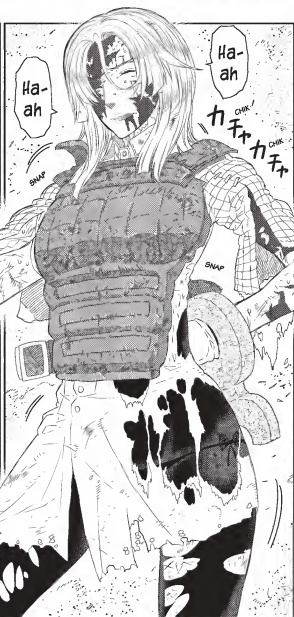
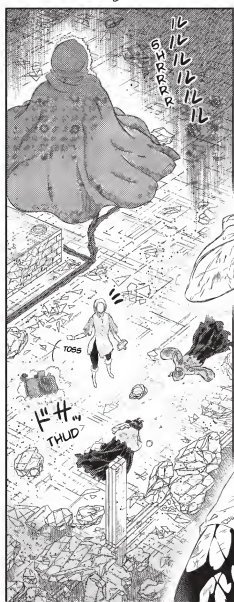






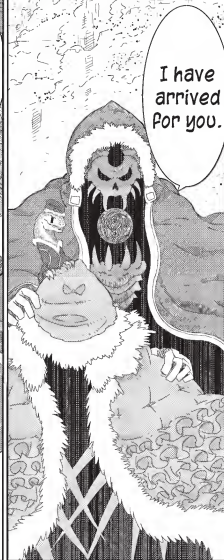








Very good.



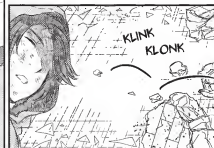
I have arrived for you.



Witches need more than magic to prevail in battle.



PTT 7⁰ W



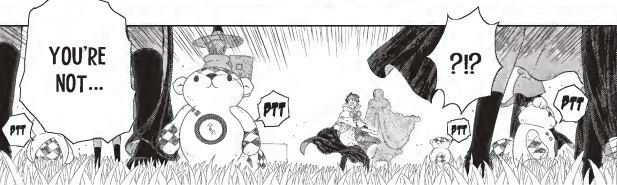
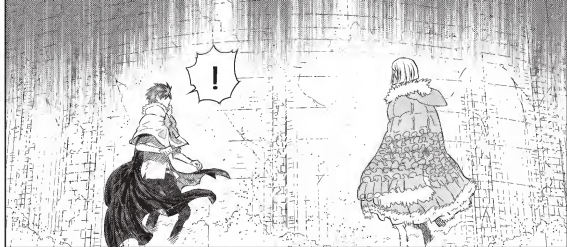
KLINK
KLONK



I know
you're
watching,
Honoka
Takamiya!

Your friends are
about to die!!
So, what will
you do now?!











Kagari.

...



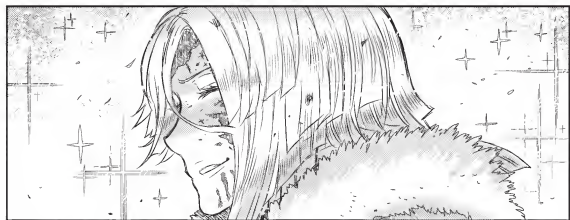
Rinon and
the others
are hurt...
We need to
help them.

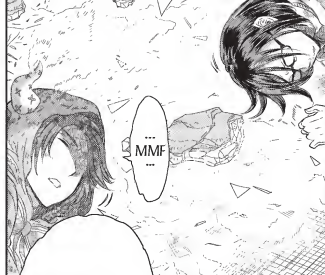


What are you
saying, Takamiya?
That contract
protects
regular people.
You can't save
witches with it.

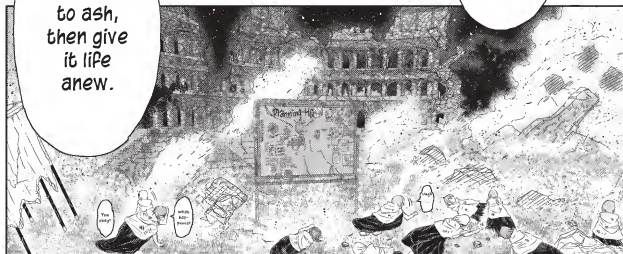
But
remember
what you
said? I need
to do what
must be
done.







Turn all
to ash,
then give
it life
anew.



That is the
power of your
Fire Craftwork,
Honoka
Takamiya!





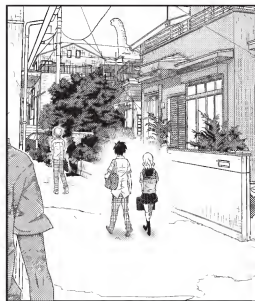


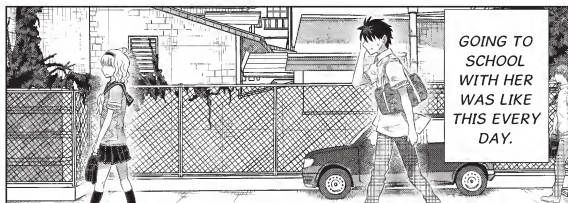


The Night Before the Showdown with Kazane

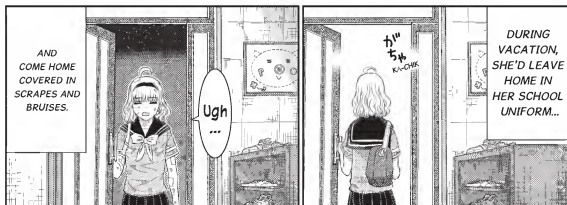


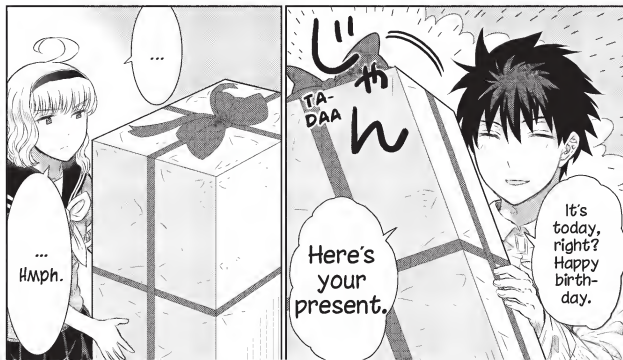
LITTLE SISTER THEATER: THE AWAKENING



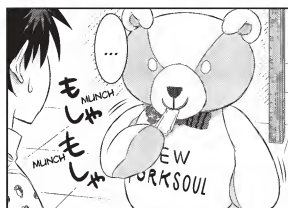


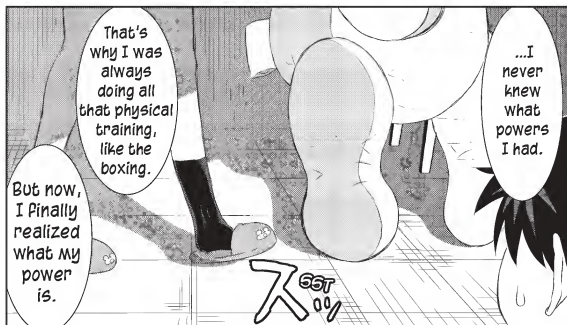














Little Sister Theater Returns



Mommy Theater





Afterword

Hello, Mizunagi here.

Did you enjoy volume 5, and the first half of the battle against Weekend? Things got a little more serious in this volume, with a tough enemy finally appearing to shake things up! I'm planning for volume 6 to be the second half, but maybe it'll be a three-parter...

Ryu Mizunagi

Witchcraft Works
2018

Assistants:
Shinobu
Takumi
Tamocchan

Witchcraft Works



—and Kagari, the school's idol, was my maid!

MUMBLE
MUMBLE

These pages are a collection of behind-the-scenes character and story elements that probably won't affect or appear in the main story, as well as comments by the author. If you finish reading the story and think, "I want to know more!" then we hope you enjoy the information here.

Chapter 17: Takamiya and the Witch of the End

The introductory act of the battle against Weekend.

- Takamiya and Kagari

When Kagari calls the clothes she wears during the shopping trip "showy," one could reasonably get the idea that she's somewhat old-fashioned.

- Kasumi

Notice the "Silent Treatment" design on the back of her shirt.

- Miss Weekend

A Tower Witch. She is one of the witches the Workshop has labeled the "Witches of the End." "Weekend" is a nickname, not her real name.

As a witch who specializes in explosives, she installs and activates an explosive magic square capable of destroying the entire city. (The detonator is a different witch who has made a blood pact and is in a separate location with instructions to set off the explosion at 10 AM.) This plan successfully allows her to take out Kazane.

- ★ The title of "Witch of the End"

Various titles are given to witches, such as those for defeating a large number of enemies or for exceeding a certain level of ability.

The title of "Witch of the End" is given to witches who deserve to be shunned, as their mere existence brings the world close to destruction. It is earned by fulfilling a number of conditions, such as living for a certain number of years and possessing magical powers beyond a certain level.

Once a witch exceeds a certain level of power, she rises to the rank of “Great Witch,” and must go to a higher realm where she cannot interfere with reality. However, Witches of the End have refused to do this, and continue to exist in the regular world.

It is said that Witches of the End deserve to be shunned because, in general, they have some sort of reason that they are still tied to the real world, and these reasons generally bring about negative consequences. Therefore, the term is also used as an insult.

Incidentally, as Kazane is also known as “Miss Bad End,” she too falls into this category.

Chapter 18-21: Takamiya and the Fight Against Weekend

- Takamiya

Takamiya’s Firecraft can turn all to ash, then give it life anew.

This “Craftwork” magic was put together and is embodied by Evermillion, the ruler of the elemental magic of fire. Craftworks are powerful elemental spells that form the basis of all magic.

Other Craftworks that have appeared so far include Medusa’s Earthcraft, which uses the elemental magic of earth. However, its true power could not be used by Medusa because her hands and eyes, which are essential to the spell, were bound.

- Kagari

Kagari holds her hand out when Rinon attacks in an attempt to shoot flames. However, she is unable to, and is defeated. Her inability to use magic makes her realize what’s going on.

She then escapes from the deep underground cell and takes Takamiya to the place where the contract with the town is made. Kagari’s strength even without magic is the result of Kazane’s training.

- Kasumi

A possible successor (and alternate) for the five witches who protect Tougetsu city.

Rinon is her master, which is why their fighting styles are similar.

- Natsume Mikage

One of the five witches who protect Tougetsu city. The leader of the five, but

somewhat unreliable. Wears black-rimmed glasses and black gloves on both hands.

★ Calls Mister Mikage “Kyouichiro,” which suggests a close relationship between the two.

★ The tranquilizer gun she received from the Chairwoman allows her to successfully capture Kagari and Takamiya, but she immediately gets knocked out by Kagari’s headbutt. She possesses fairly low fighting abilities.

★ Natsume’s strengths are analysis and disassembly, and she carries tools for these purposes with her. In the battle against Weekend, she makes eye contact with Rinon to confirm their plan of her disenchanting all of the bombs just as Rinon beats up their enemy. She and Rinon make a good pair.

• Rinon Otometachibana

One of the five witches who protect Tougetsu city, she is the de facto leader of the group.

Rarely goes to school unless there’s an emergency, though, so in that sense, perhaps Natsume is more suited for the role.

★ Uses magic known as “Steel Coating” that allows her to cover part (or all) of her body with steel. As this magic becomes more effective the stronger her body is, most of her training is physical in nature.

While she can turn her fists and abdomen, both of which she frequently uses in battle, into steel almost instantly, turning her entire body into steel takes time. If she was able to turn her body into steel instantaneously, she may have been able to withstand Weekend’s explosives.

★ She was trained as a fighter by Kasane, so in battle exterminating her enemies always is of the highest priority.

• Kuramine Atori

One of the five witches who protect Tougetsu city. A silent furry-ear.

Carries Aroundight, a large sword, and the “Abacus Blade,” a large, iron abacus.

• Touko

One of the five witches who protect Tougetsu city. A non-combatant member of the team, responsible for chores and odd jobs.

Comes from a long line of witches who were once storied, respected ice

researchers, but recently fell from grace due to various circumstances, only to be saved by the Kagari family. Lives in a small cabin detached from the Kagari home with her parents and 11 little sisters.

All throughout middle school, Touko was responsible for taking care of Kagari at the behest of her family. Her parents were delighted to learn of this, and told her, “Now we can repay the debt we owe to the Kagari clan. You should consider this chance to serve them as a dream come true!”

She is extremely poor, and works part-time jobs every day in order to support her family.

- Chronoire Schwarz VI

Pineal glands of powerful witches are her favorite food. Doesn't mind at all that she was used by Weekend, and has become interested in her after she defeats Kazane.

- Miss Weekend

I created this character because I wanted a villain who was memorable, for better or for worse.

I planned to wrap her story up during volume 5, but by the time I realized it, the volume only covered the first part of her story... In fact, this is only day one of an entire week.

Blonde. Wears a red robe around her body and a somewhat troubled, sarcastic smile on her face.

Garrulous, and tends to talk a lot when given the chance.

As she says herself, Weekend isn't a very physically strong witch.

- Gibraltar

One of Weekend's underlings, and a golem-using earth witch.

Gibraltar lies in wait for Kagari and Honoka on the path to the place where the contract with the city is made.

- ★ The contract with the town

When people gather in a location and stay there for a number of years, a collective consciousness is manifested that works to protect the town in the shape of a giant tree.

This tree is nourished by the people's consciousness, so it grows larger when more people are present, and withers when people leave.

It is said that Workshop Witches first came about when workshops were created in locations where these trees grew in order to protect them and keep them from being used for evil.

◆ Throughout the ages, the head witch of the Workshop has been obligated to form a contract with the tree.

This forms a barrier around the entire town, guarding its regular citizens in exchange for her magical power.

However, due to the power being drawn by the town, run-of-the-mill witches cannot make this contract. Only highly-trained witches with large stores of magical power are able to take this punishing yet prestigious position. This system is used against the town in chapter 17, allowing Weekend to defeat Kazane by sapping all of her magic at once.

◆ As the head Workshop Witch must fulfill the contract without interruption for 24 hours a day, she cannot leave the town.

However, as Kagari says, this is now an “old custom.” The world (for witches) has become a peaceful one, therefore not all towns maintain contracts.

This is in part because as the world has become more convenient, science has largely replaced magic, lowering the overall quality of witches, and thus reducing the number of powerful ones able to supply towns with magic 24 hours a day.

◆ The number of towns that have reduced the burden on the contracted witch by doing things such as ignoring minor magical damage (the contract only activates when someone’s life is in danger) or only having the contract be active at night has increased.

This is especially true in towns where magic poses little threat.

On the other hand, towns where magic does pose a threat (such as the town where Medusa is sealed) have properly-functioning contracts.

Kazane has made a full contract with the city of Tougetsu in order to protect Takamiya.

Additionally, because Kazane has been labeled a “Witch of the End,” she was shunned by the witches at the top of the Workshop hierarchy, making it difficult for her to become head of the Tougetsu city Workshop.

◆ When a destructive act of magic takes place, the town protects regular citizens (non-witches), restores damaged buildings, and alters memories so that “nothing happened.”

This “protection” does not necessarily mean that individuals are kept from being injured, as they most often are healed with magic after they are hurt.

When Kagari blows regular people up in chapter 6 or raises body temperatures in chapter 14, this healing magic immediately activates to heal them.

In chapter 6, it's explained that Kazane later scolded Kagari. Similarly, after the incident in chapter 14, Kazane raked Kagari over the coals, causing her to stop using magic against regular students.

Of course, that's also around the time she started physical training, so it's more like her attacks just changed from magical to physical ones...

◆ Memories cannot be immediately erased.

As seen in chapter 7, when news of Kasumi destroying the town is shown on television, there is somewhat of a time lag. When this happens, injured citizens are sheltered in a safe location after their wounds are healed, and their memories are later altered as damaged buildings are being restored.

When extreme damage is dealt to buildings and no shelter can be found, such as in the current fight with Weekend, citizens are evacuated to a special barrier where they are kept until the town's buildings are restored.

★ Bonus

The chapter 17 bonus title is a parody of the 80's J-Drama "The Housekeeper Saw".

Witchcraft Works, volume 5

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